CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. Method of operating a computer system with:

- a central processing unit;

- a plurality of peripheral units coupled with the central processing unit;

- a power management unit coupled with the central processing unit and the plurality of peripheral units for reducing power consumption during a stand-by mode, whereby a suspend routine is executed to transition from a normal operating mode into a stand-by mode and a resume routine is executed to transition back from a stand-by mode to a normal operating mode;

said method comprising the steps of:

- providing a plurality of tasks to be executed during a suspend routine to switch from a normal operating mode into a stand-by mode;

- providing a plurality of tasks to be executed during a resume routine to switch from a stand-by mode back to a normal operating mode;

- determining at least one task as being moveable from the resume routine;

- executing the at least one task during the suspend routine.

2. Method according to claim 1, wherein said resume routine comprises normal operating system tasks and normal basic input output system tasks and wherein the at least one task is a normal operating system task.

3. Method according to claim 1, wherein said resume routine comprises normal operating system tasks and normal basic input output system tasks and wherein the at least one task is a normal basic input output system task.

4. Method according to claim 2, wherein said at least one task provides a LCD power cycling delay.

5. Method according to claim 3, wherein said at least one task provides a checking of the presence of a hard disk password.

6. Method according to claim 3, wherein said at least one task provides start procedure for a Log-in client.

7. Method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of providing a preference selection routine in which the moveable tasks are automatically identified and moved from the resume routine path to the suspend routine path.

8. Method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of providing a preference selection routine in which the moveable tasks can be manually identified and moved from the resume routine path to the suspend routine path.

9. Computer system with:

- a central processing unit;

- a plurality of peripheral units coupled with the central processing unit;

- a power management unit coupled with the central processing unit and the plurality of peripheral units for reducing power consumption during a stand-by mode, whereby a suspend routine is executed to transition from a normal operating mode into a stand-by mode and a resume routine is executed to transition back from a stand-by mode to a normal operating mode;

- means for executing a plurality of tasks during a suspend routine to switch from a normal operating mode into a stand-by mode;

- means for executing a plurality of tasks during a resume routine to switch from a stand-by mode back to a normal operating mode;

- determination means for determining at least one task as being moveable from the resume routine;

- execution means for executing the at least one task during the suspend routine.

10. Computer system according to claim 9, wherein said resume routine comprises normal operating system tasks and normal basic input output system tasks and wherein the at least one task is a normal operating system task.

11. Computer system according to claim 9, wherein said resume routine comprises normal operating system tasks and normal basic input output system tasks and wherein the at least one task is a normal basic input output system task.

12. Computer system according to claim 10, wherein said at least one task provides a LCD power cycling delay.

13. Computer system according to claim 11, wherein said at least one task provides a checking of the presence of a hard disk password.

14. Computer system according to claim 3, wherein said at least one task provides start procedure for a Log-in client.

15. Computer system according to claim 9, further comprising the step of providing a preference selection routine in which the moveable tasks are automatically identified and moved from the resume routine path to the suspend routine path.

16. Computer system according to claim 9, further comprising the step of providing a preference selection routine in which the moveable tasks can be manually identified and moved from the resume routine path to the suspend routine path.

17. Computer system according to claim 9, wherein said computer system is a laptop computer.

18. Power management software executed in a central processing unit of a computer system comprising a suspend routine including a first plurality of tasks, a standby routine, and a resume routine including a second plurality of tasks, wherein the suspend routine includes at least one task from the resume routine.

19. Power management software according to claim 18, wherein a third plurality of tasks within the resume routine can be executed either in the suspend routine or in the resume routine.

20. Power management software according to claim 19, wherein each task of the third plurality of tasks can be marked to be either executed in the resume routine or in the suspend routine.

21. Power management software according to claim 19, wherein the third plurality of tasks is automatically executed in the suspend routine.

22. Power management software according to claim 18, wherein the central processing unit is completely turned off during the stand-by mode.

23. Power management software according to claim 18, wherein the suspend routine and the resume routine comprise tasks executed on a operating system level and on a basic input output system level.